

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

714/744 P STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814



SFUND RECORDS CTR  
2072109

## PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Tosco Corporation Bakersfield  
Refinery  
6500 Refinery Avenue  
Bakersfield, CA 93308

History and Problem

This petroleum refinery has been in operation from 1943-83, refining crude oil into gasoline and other petroleum products.

According to a CERCLA notification filed by Tosco, on-site disposal of refinery wastes such as acids, bases, heavy metals, and organics has occurred at this facility in the past, but precise locations of disposal are unknown, as are exact quantities of wastes. The primary method of on-site disposal has always been underground injection, but the CERCLA notification indicates that these additional disposal methods were used: land treatment, landfill, impoundment, and underground drums.

Near-surface contamination of soils around on-site ponds and ditches was evaluated in 1982, at which time some contaminated soils were excavated and a pipeline was constructed to transport wastewaters from their points of origin to the underground injection facility. Groundwater monitoring has shown continued elevated levels of arsenic, however, and Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) staff reports indicate that pond liners have been leaking, allowing waste to contaminate groundwater.

A cleanup and abatement order was issued to Tosco by the RWQCB on February 3, 1984. It requires development of plans for assessing soil contamination by July 1984 and completion of corrective actions according to a schedule which must be developed by May 15, 1984.

Recommendation

Since the RWQCB has recently issued a cleanup and abatement order, staff recommend the site be assigned "pending" status.

**PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT  
Region 9**

Preparer's Name Linda Kruse

Date February 1984

	SOURCE	INFORMATION
1. Site ID Number	ERRIS Turnaround Document	CAD000072769
2. Site Name	ERRIS Turnaround Document	Tosco Corp. Bakersfield Refinery
3. Site Location	EPA Notification of Haz. Waste Site	6500 Refinery Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93308
4. County	EPA Notification of Haz. Waste Site	Kern
5. Owner (Address & telephone no.)	EPA Notification of Haz. Waste Site	Tosco Corp. P.O. Box 2860 Bakersfield, CA 93303 (805) 327-2121
6. Operator (Address & telephone no.)	RWQCB -- Fresno Letter dated 1/3/84	Mr. Jack Caufield Tosco Corp. P.O. Box 2860 Bakersfield, CA 93303 (805) 327-2121
7. Type of Ownership	RWQCB -- Fresno Letter dated 1/3/84	Corporation
8. Status	RWQCB -- Fresno Telecon 2/17/84	Operating far below designed capacity
9. Source Activity	DHS -- Tox. Div. Fresno Letter -- 11/3/82	Refining of crude oil to produce gasoline and other petroleum products
10. Years of Operation	RWQCB -- Fresno	1943-83
11. Facility Type	NOTIS -- EPA	1. Injection wells -- 840,000 gal./day capacity 2. Landfill and buried waste 3. Contaminated soil under ponds and ditches
12. Waste Type and Description	NOTIS -- EPA Form 8900	Acids, bases, heavy metals, inorganics, solvents, and organics

## 13. Contacts

Scott Smith, RWQCB Central Valley Region, (209) 445-5116 (See 12/29/83 memo)  
 Mohinder Sandhu, DHS Toxic Division, Northern California Section, Fresno,  
 (209) 291-6676  
 Richard Casagrande, Kern Co. Hlth. Dept., Bakersfield, CA, (805) 861-3636

## 14. Incidents

\_\_\_\_\_ No Regulatory Agency Records of Incidents

Fire and Explosion \_\_\_\_\_ Direct Contact \_\_\_\_\_

## 15. Inspections (date, type, by whom, recommendations)

10/21/81 -- Insp. by RWQCB's T. Souther -- Problems with harvest ponds and are using their emergency storage pond for containment of waste (seepage to second liner), not in compliance with Order No. 77-254. See 11/5/81 letter)

4/5/83 -- EPA inspection -- Daniel Shore -- Violations -- 40, CRF Part 265 (See letter.)

## 16. Enforcement History (list date type of action, requirements. --

(See Attachment)

## 17.a. Initial recommendation for further action:

RWQCB Central Valley has taken the lead and is in the process of obtaining compliance. DHS's Toxic Division should continue to participate due to soil contamination at the refinery. EPA should assign pending status to this site and review progress later in 1983.

## 17.b. EPA recommendation for further action:

18. Response Termination: ☐ No Further Action ☒ Pending ☒ Active

Justification: Sufficient state overview. There is some evidence of hazardous waste problem but given resources at EPA no further action should be taken due to sufficient state action. P. Cleary 8-3-84

Site should be scored for NPL update. 1/18/83  
 RWQCB presently compiling data on known groundwater contamination should be reviewed. H. Rose 9/7/84

	SOURCE	INFORMATION
19. Observed Release		
20. Depth to Aquifer		
21. Net Precipitation Net seas. rainfall Evaporation		
22. Permeability of Unsaturated Zone		
23. Physical State		
24. Containment (Ground Water)		
25. Toxicity		
26. Persistence		
27. Waste Quantity		
28. Ground Water Use		
29. Distance to Well		
30. Population Served (by Ground Water)		

	SOURCE	INFORMATION
31. Facility Slope		
32. 1 yr. 24 hr. rainfall		
33. Distance to Surface Water		
34. Containment (Surface Water)		
35. Surface Water Use		
36. Distance to Sensi- tive Environment		
37. Population Served (by Surface Water)		
38. Distance to Water Intake		
39. Reactivity		
40. Incompatibility		
41. Toxicity (Air)		
42. Population within 4 mile radius		
43. Land Use		

ATTACHMENT

16. Enforcement History (List date, type of action, requirements)

- 1981 - DHS Toxics Division issued Interim Status Document No. CAD00007269 effective 7/20/81.
- 12-31-82 - DHS Toxics Division - J. Stahler ordered analysis to determine STLCS for each element listed.
- 02-09-83 - DHS Toxics Division - J. Stahler reviewed correction plan and listed deficiencies.
- 03-09-83 - RWQCB - Scott Smith recommends study of potential water contamination.
- 04-19-83 - DHS Toxics Division - J. Stahler warning letter issued, closure plan incomplete and soil contamination assessment plan needed.
- 01-03-84 - RWQCB - Scott Smith-cleanup and abatement order
- 02-03-84 - Cleanup and abatement order rescinded; new cleanup and abatement order issued.